

ATHENA

Greek name Ἀθηνᾶ

Latin name Minerva

Name in your language

Parents Zeus and Metis

Role goddess of wisdom, crafts, just war, heroic endeavour

Home Mount Olympus / Athens

Attributes olive tree, weapons (helmet, spear, shield)

Pets owl

Athena's birth was rather unusual: she was born from her mother's womb but jumped out from her father's head, that is, directly from Zeus' head. Athena was the daughter of the wise Titaness Metis, and she was the goddess of wisdom herself; she made people wiser, teaching them arts and crafts, like making clothes, pots, ships... Moreover, unlike Ares, she was not the goddess of any war, but of the just war: given that she was the goddess of wisdom, she did everything for a reason, even war, and generally, she was in favour of peace. Lastly, she was the patroness goddess of the city of Athens. In mythical fact, she bestowed the city with the most precious gift, which made the Athenians very rich: the olive tree. As for her armour, to scare her enemies in battle, Athena used a special item. It was the Gorgoneion, a Gorgon's head she placed on her shield. Can you think about one famous Gorgon? Medusa, of course! Medusa was a monstrously powerful woman with a petrifying gaze and numerous snakes as hair. In our game, Athena's Gorgoneion is just a picture, but still, it terrifies her foes. Cut-out and colour your own Gorgoneion as a lucky charm amulet.

